

CD 2012--39



UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO
FACULTY OF MUSIC

2011-12 SEASON

Sunday, March 25, 2012
7:30 pm. Walter Hall

PERCUSSION ENSEMBLE

Dorian Cox and Jonathan Smith, coaches

Performers

AJ Fisico, Anna Karpazis, Andy McNeilly, Ian Morris, William Tran, Carol Xuanyu Wang

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|--------------------------|-------------------|
| 1 4/4 for Four | Anthony Cirone |
| 2 Akadinda Trio | Emmanuel Séjourné |
| 3 Roll Up the Rim | Jason Haughn |
| 4 I Feel Tears Rain Down | Yusuke Yamamoto |

INTERMISSION

- | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------|
| 5 Blue Rhythm Quintet | Mark Ford |
| 6 Aurora Borealis | Marilyn Bliss |
| 7 Little Secrets | Passion Pit
arr. Justin Han |

PROGRAM NOTES

4/4 for Four is an exciting and energetic work by the renowned percussionist and educator, Anthony Cirone. Because of its popularity among percussionists and audiences alike, it is widely performed and has been established as a standard of the percussion ensemble repertoire.

Inspired by the percussive mallet music of Uganda, each player in the **Akadinda Trio** utilizes two mallets, and all three players play on one 5-Octave marimba. Numerous melo-rhythmic lines interlock to form an interesting polyrhythmic (3:2 etc.) texture. No one part is particularly difficult, yet concentration is required so as to realize the interlocking rhythmic patterns in a fashion that seems relaxed, yet grooves! - *Note by the composer*

Roll Up the Rim is a thoroughly Canadian composition by Nova Scotian percussionist Jason Haughn. The piece is fun and lighthearted with an extensive solo for each performer to enjoy.

Yusuke Yamamoto is a Japanese musician/composer who studied percussion at the Kunitachi College of Music in Tokyo, and at the Berkley College of Music in Boston where he was a student of Gary Burton. His percussion trio "**I Feel Tears Rain Down**" integrates both Japanese and North American compositional techniques and musical sensibilities. The result is a challenging but engaging work that features many different percussion instruments.

Blue Rhythm Quintet was written in 1972 and dedicated to Gene Krupa. Performed as an energetic work, composer Anthony Korf utilizes 10 tom-toms, 4 timpani, bongos, bass drum, suspended cymbal, cowbells and 3 gongs in this quintet. Opening with a quick pulse of eighth notes on the bass drum, the work quickly builds in texture and intensity. Soloists emerge in sections while ensemble members perform supporting ostinatos. Players are also given the opportunity to improvise a solo at one point. Using triplets against sixteenth notes and fives against fours, Korf creates complex rhythms that lead to a middle section in mixed meter. Here there are dramatic shifts of dynamics over 5/8 and 7/8 bars which gradually return to the opening statement in the bass drum. The quintet progresses to the end by developing the original rhythmic theme with ideas from the mix metered section to create a driving climax. - *Notes by Mark Ford*

Iowa-born composer, Marilyn Bliss, wrote this quiet yet moving work titled "**Aurora Borealis**". The piece depicts the natural phenomenon of the northern lights and conveys a sense of beauty and serenity.

"**Little Secrets**" is a pop song written and performed by the electro-pop band, Passion Pit. The track is the third single from their first full length album entitled "Manners" (2009) and used back up vocals from the PS22 Chorus, an elementary school chorus from Staten Island, NY. The reoccurring chorus contains the lyrics, "Let this be our little secret, no one needs to know we're feeling higher and higher and higher, higher and higher and higher."

BIOGRAPHIES

DORIAN COX is a Masters in Music candidate in Percussion Performance at the University of Toronto, where he was awarded the Eaton Graduate Fellowship. He was recently accepted as a participant for the Chosen Vale International Percussion Seminar at the Center for Advanced Musical Studies, in Enfield, New Hampshire, which he will be attending this summer. This past fall, he was selected as the only Canadian percussion student to be invited to performed with the Percussive Arts Society International Convention Fiftieth Anniversary Marimba Orchestra, which performed in Indianapolis in November, 2011. In the summer of 2011, Mr. Cox was awarded a grant from the Williamson Foundation for Music to attend the Zeltsman Marimba Festival. A dedicated student, he has also attended the Juilliard Summer Percussion Seminar, the Leigh Howard Stevens Summer Marimba Seminar, the Toronto Summer Music Academy and Festival, and has performed with the National Youth Orchestra of Canada and the Banff Festival Orchestra.

JONATHAN SMITH is an avid performer of new and contemporary music. This past June, he was invited to perform with the Atlantic Canadian new music ensemble, Motion, at the Canadian University Music Society's annual conference. Jonathan also has performed many newly commissioned works with both the University of Toronto's gamUT ensemble, and the Mount Allison New Music Ensemble of which he is a founding member. This coming summer, Jonathan will be visiting Princeton University to attend the So Percussion Summer Institute. For two weeks at the end of July, he will be giving performances in New Jersey and New York City, premiering new works by Princeton composers, and attending masterclasses by many renowned performers and composers. Jonathan is a MMus student in Percussion Performance at the University of Toronto where he studies with Beverley Johnston and Russell Hartenberger.